

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 have been examined, and are all the claims pending in the application.

Allowed claims

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 6 and 14 are allowed.

Claim objections

Claim 4 stands objected to because the limitation “both edge sections” in line 3 allegedly has no antecedent basis. While Applicant posits that claim 4, as originally filed, would be clear to one having ordinary skill in the art, Applicant has nevertheless amended claim 4 and respectfully requests the Examiner to remove the objection.

Substantive rejections

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 9, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Izumi, which is previously of record. Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Izumi in view of Yoshimura. Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Izumi in view of Takemura. Claims 10-12, 15, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Izumi in view of Kojima.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature of “a drive member that is connected to said moving member at a connecting section and that is for driving said moving member along the main-scanning direction”. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the art of record, taken either alone or in any conceivable combination, teaches or otherwise discloses this feature as

recited by claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable for this reason.

Claim 1 has also been amended to recite the feature “wherein said predetermined print head is a print head other than the print head that is the furthest away from said connecting section in a direction perpendicular to the main-scanning direction, among said plurality of print heads”. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the art of record, taken either alone or in any conceivable combination, teaches or otherwise discloses this feature as recited by claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable for this additional reason.

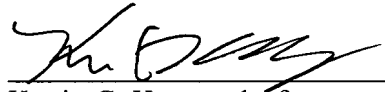
Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining claims are patentable based on their respective dependencies.

Conclusion and request for interview

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Kevin C. Kunzendorf
Registration No. 58,308

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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